(b) Copies of the B.I.C.P's report are available in Parliament library. The Government are in constant dialogue with the industry in this regard.

Supersession of a District Judge

175. SHRI J.P. GOYAL : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a senior District Judge has been superceded recently in the appointment of a Judge of the Delhi High Court despite the fact that his name was recommended by two successive Chief Justices of the High Court and approved by the Chief Justice of India; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) and (b) There has been no supersession since appointment to the High Court is not in the line of promotion of State Judicial Service Officers, nor has any person a right to be considered for fresh appointment as a High Court Judge.

However, the matter of appointing the District and Sessions Judge, Delhi as a High Court Judge is engaging the attention of the Government in consultation with the concerned Constitutional authorities.

Acquisition of Helicopters for GAIL

176. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH :

SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that about nine months ago, Gas Authority of India had invited tenders for acquisition of two helicopters to supervise its pipe-laying operations;

(b) if so, what are the factors responsible for non-finalisation of the tender so far and by when the helicopters would be acquired;

(c) whether it is a fact that GAIL intend to scrap the bids for the above helicopters and making alternative arrangements for their acquisition; and

(d) if so, what is the justification for such a step?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) : (a) The tender was floated for net leasing of helicopters and not for acquisition.

(b) to (d) Helicopter Corporation of India has since been formed for the purpose of hiring out helicopters to users in the country. GAIL have therefore proposed to consider leasing helicopters from the Helicopter Corporation of India now. The proposal is therefore still under consideration.

Delays in finalisation of HBJ Project

177. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH :

SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that HBJ project has been delayed because of the late finalisation of the main turn-key contract

(b) if so, what is the new targe date for completion of the project; and